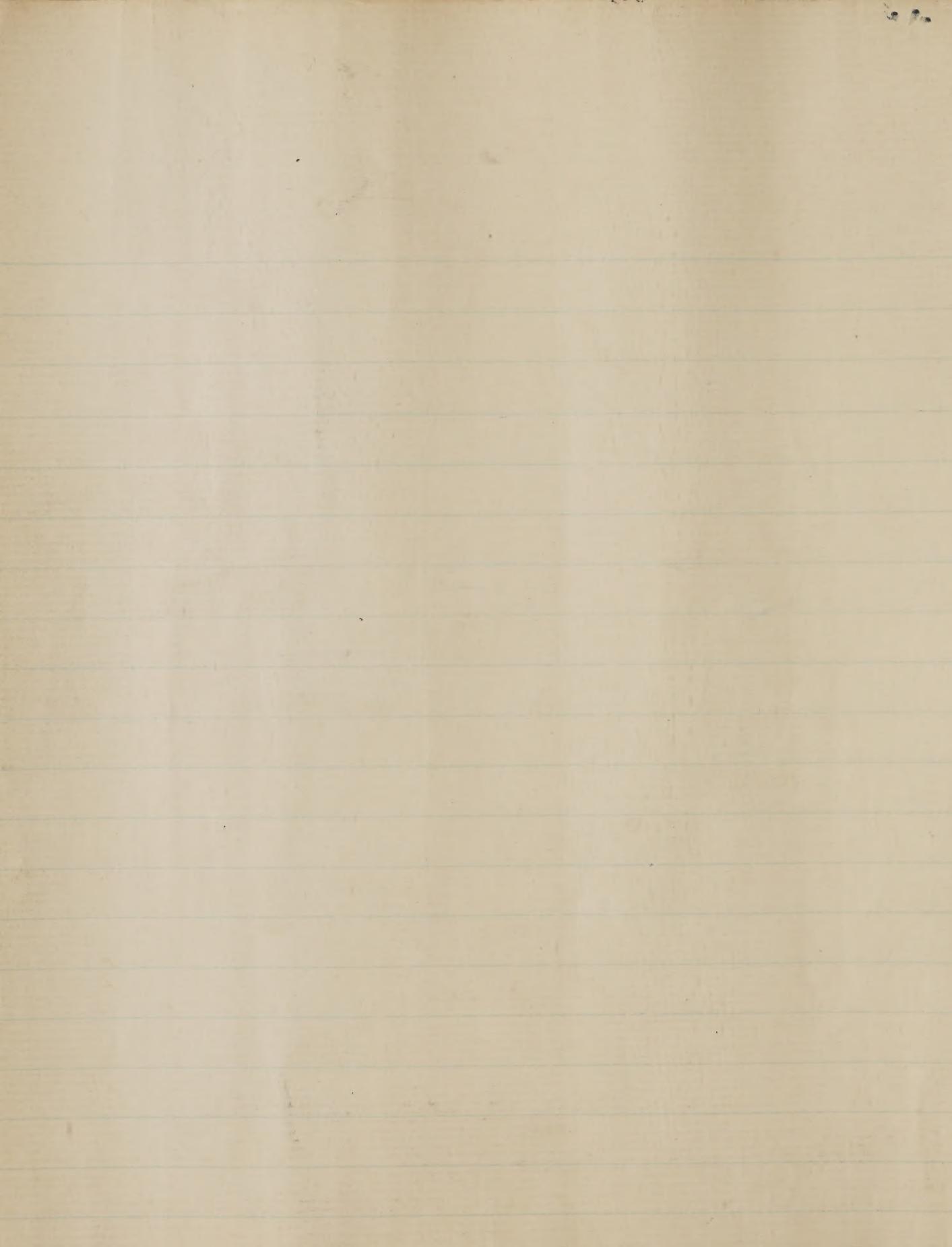


I will give you a brief description of the
Sharing process. First - the candidates for
initiation - ^{being} those who never crossed the Equator
before - were locked up in the Galley - or Deck
House, which ever was most suitable, so they
could not see the proceedings being enacted
outside ~~or~~ in other words - the Council preparing
for membership & I had noticed on the passage
the Sailors were very busy getting ready their
paraphernalia - of crude design - which in
this case consisted of False beards and other
hirsute appendages - for the degree team.
as I had been initiated some boy ages before
I became an accessory before the fact. I
was not in the team - but allowed to make
suggestions, ^{in station} I being small, while the team
were picked men in size and strength who
could manage the candidate should he
become obstreperous - or make a sudden
burst for freedom - There was no black
balling in this society - I know for the
Manner of initiation ~~as I have seen~~
~~it is this day~~

First - on the Eve of crossing the line the Candidates - being all secured - there is a tar barrel filled with tar, rope, and other combustibles - set fire to, and set adrift, when a distance of about a couple of knots from the ship - the Candidates are brought forth, handcuffed, and are pointed out the fiery mass in the distance - which they are told is "Neptune" coming in his fiery ship - (~~most~~ many believe it at the time) and he is coming toward us - ~~to ascertain if~~ ~~there are any new subjects for his watery dominions~~ the Candidates are then locked up again - after a short interval - during which there is a bustle on deck apparently as though throwing a line to some vessel, ~~Secondly~~ The voice of Neptune is heard over the bow, through a speaking trumpet, hailing us and asking where from and where bound - and if we have any new subjects for his realm - being answered in the affirmative - he again asks if they were warned on the passage of his coming & he is answered

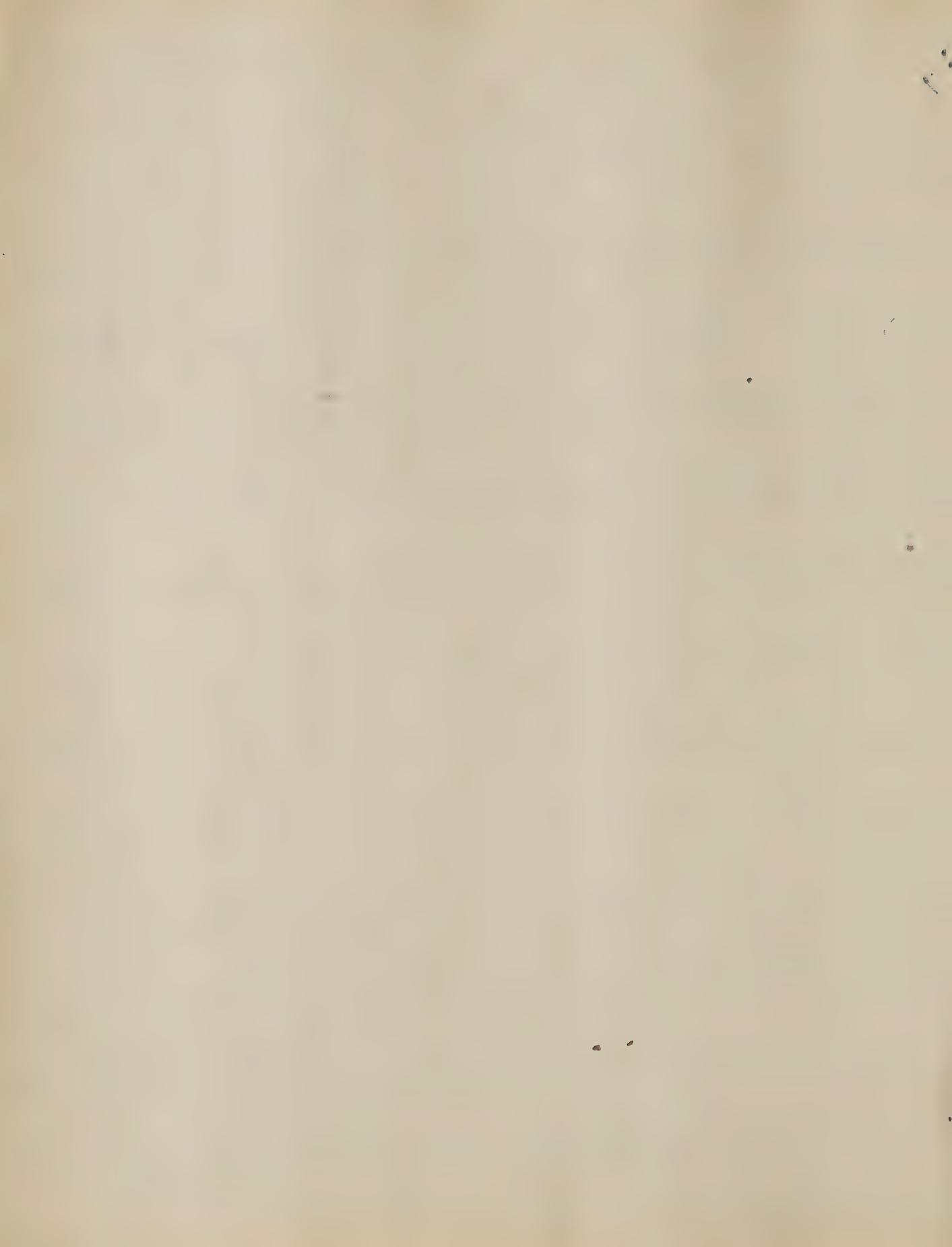


in the negative & he is satisfied - (as this is never to be spoken of during the passage). The next thing is a procession formed on the Forecastle Deck - headed by the band which in this case - consisted of a Fiddle, - a Concertina, a Tin whistle and a jews harp. There was hardly a ship in those days without music and these mentioned were the most prominent. The moment all ^{are} in readiness - the Candidates are brought out and allowed to see Neptune, and his Queen, come aboard. They are formed in line under police protection, - and the grand procession passes in review - A Herald in front - then the band - strikes up "See the conquering hero comes" "or Old dog tray - or what ever strikes the fancy best, then follows King Neptune with his Queen in horseback which is improvised by a couple of Sailors - the Candidates bringing up the rear - with Neptunes Doctor and Barber, ~~being one on each side of the~~ ~~the~~ after making a course of the ship which on this occasion is in the hands of Neptune - having received carte blanche previously

from the Captain - The herald then announces
 the King - ~~the~~ ^{on the quarter deck} and Queen, to those assembled
 The King makes a speech; - the Captain replies,
 The Queen does not speak, and the Herald
 announces - she is suffering from some slight
 indisposition, ~~being so that this ends up the~~
~~deception~~ Then follows another parade, during
 which time, the candidates are again locked
 up. I will pause just here to remark that
 many an Old Sailor trembles with fear on
 his initial Equatorial voyage - the ~~most~~
 fun is had with the apprentices. also the
 cooks, and stewards - ~~on the first Equatorial~~
~~voyage~~ - After the candidates are all
 secured, - the team forms in the ~~want~~ or
 centre of the ship; beneath the resplendent beams
 of a glorious moon; and the gentle balmy
 breezes of a tropical sky, & the candidates are
 brought forth (one at a time) and ~~are told to be~~
~~seated~~ ^{reclined} on a box ~~or~~ a bucket reversed - then
 are proponed to ~~him~~ ^{each} a few questions relative
 to his purposes - and loyalty to King Neptune

67
he is then taken in hand by the Royal Barber
who has a rather obnoxious compound mixed
together in a paint pot, the leading mixture
being porpoise oil taken from the blubber
caught for the occasion. I don't know of any
ingredient more offensive, to the sensitive
hostile; this mixture is applied vigorously
to the lower part of the face, of the candidate,
whose hands are tied behind his back, to
prevent his doing any damage to the
proboscis of the Royal Cosmetic Artist.
The Barber having completed the latter - scrapes
it off with a piece of Iron hoop - then his
face is gently mopped with a rough piece
of Oakum for a few minutes. This takes the
place of the Turkish towel - he is then taken
in hand by his Majestys Physician - who kindly
alleviates his feelings - by giving him a
pill prepared ~~from~~ ^{from} the same ingredients a la
Barber - with a little soap to stiffen up the
ingredients - so as to form the aforesaid pill.
The candidate resists (naturally) whereupon his
lips are opened, and he must take his medicine,

like every son of Neptune should, - the doctor
of course although prescribing the medicine
in many cases feels sorry for the recipient
as he offers him a ~~box~~ & small from his
"Revisorum Momentū" which his nostrils ~~are~~
treated to, the cork being full of beetle pits
and not being taken out he gets the needle
into it's nose & he forgets all his previous
troubles, and promises to get square with the
Doctor, the King then puts his hand on his
head and Baptizes him, in the Name of
the King, God of the Sea, & never more to be
distressed in his dominions. The Candidate's
hands are loosed, and before he is aware,
he is picked up bodily and flung into a
t full of salt water - which is stretched
across the deck - overhead, from which he
crawls out unaided, each one is served
the same way ad libitum - the passengers
steer clear of initiation - by gifts of - well we
will call it refreshments - which is a boon
to the voyage Sailor on a long voyage.

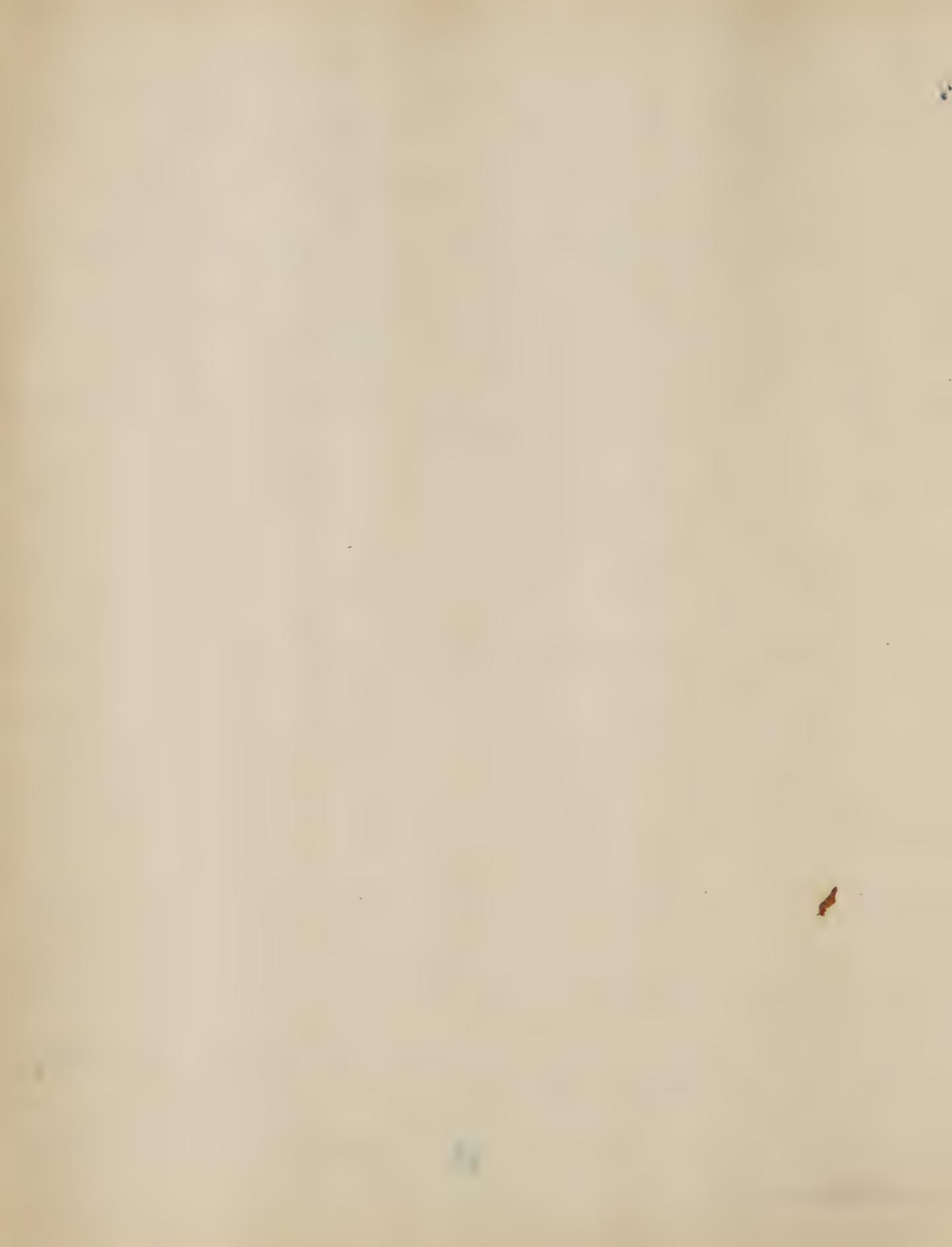


¶ ~~But~~ I must ~~say~~ ^{here} to you, that I never
saw a candidate, initiated or land a sea
no matter how rough he ~~was~~ treated that
was not ~~willing~~ ^{willing} to lend a hand to use the
best man ~~ever~~ worse than he was ~~ever~~
~~in this case - the candidates making~~ ~~proposition~~
for the next, they are then allowed to go and
~~wash and~~ ~~immensely~~ ~~take~~ the happiest men
aboard - The Decks are then cleared for
Nancin - the sea being generally pretty smooth
in the Tropics - Reshootments are sent forth
by the steward ~~for the~~ ^{from him} ~~the passengers~~ ^{with} thank
their stars - that is all the ransom required
to clear them from that ordeal, - although
they seemed to enjoy the sufferings of their
fellowman - The Captain ^{of ship} & the Sailors,
great ~~lubricity~~ ^{lubricity} on these occasions - This particular
Captain - was a gentleman - a trait which no
chain of circumstances can alter + ~~no~~ ^{no} ~~for~~
~~by the~~ - everything being in readiness, Fog being
end - the Fiddler - nicknamed Jimmy Ducks -
set on the capstan - and played a medley of some
of the most popular airs of the day

big - ree's, and hornpipes - ~~being the grand party~~
~~in which the girls and lasses~~ - ~~and~~ - ~~and~~ -
to their hearts' delight - for foolish singing
in which all hands joined with all the zest
of which their lungs were capable - all was
fun and feasting till four o'clock in the first
watch (ten o'clock) - the watch on deck attending
to their duty in the mean time - then some
went below for a nap till eight bells (twelve o'
clock) the watch on deck lay round silling
over and over the evening's adventures - more
brave than those we knew were terror
stricken before initiation - they tried to impress
us with their valour - till finally "Mephisto"
that dull god who "seals up the 'hips boys'
eyes" - finally overcame all on board - and
nothing could be heard but the moan of the
Spanker boom - and the quiet tramp of the
Officer of the Watch as he watches the guns
and ever and anon throwing his eye from habit
at the binnacle - or perhaps to call the Watch
who are lying idly round the decks, to halal
taut a brace - or call one of the boys to him

18
pinnacles lamps - although in nine cases out of ten
the lamps don't want trimming - but he won't
let the Captain to hear his voice that he may
know who wants him - and attending to duty ^{that} ~~that~~
all this while, the more choice we are alone a
watchman in the heavens - and seems to help
the sailor as he thinks of home and the kind
ness here - the sailor has opportunity to rest in
these latitudes, as the trade winds are so
steady, from ten ^{by} North, to twenty eight ^{by} North
and from ten ^o South to twenty eight ^o South
except when they encounter the Solenturns
(variable winds) - The next incident worth
recording is the catching of an Albatross, or
Cape Hen; a sport fast dying out, as ships
are fast being replaced by steamers, and the
Suez Canal the road of travel; not many ships
now go round the Cape, so the Albatross and
Cape hen will live on in glorious isolation,
I have seen several of those large beautiful
birds caught - their skins cured, and brought to
England - I often wonder if an Albatross skin
will not be a veritable curiosity to future generations

it will always be a matter of history - I
am glad I was so命中 to go to sea in
those good old days when a sailor was a
sailor by both training and discipline - those
days of good old Clippers - that could show their
heels to some of your back modern Cruisers
that could sail the same way all the
time - where the owners did not have to give
the price of another ship to the builders and
have a sick crew to run them for the occasion
I never knew them to get the knots out of them
after the cabin & hold were got done with
them - the good old Clippers often went better
when they were a little old and got acquainted
with the water as it were - I saw this ship I
am writing about sail three hundred and fifty
miles in twenty four hours - and did not look
a bit tired after - this good old ship made the
western Islands from Melbourne in forty four days
their Captains were trained men and many of them
are to day ^{some} ^{captains} ~~are~~ ^{are} seen ~~them~~ ^{as} ~~them~~
New York and England or vice versa - some
have obtained lucrative berths on Foreign vessels



The one great incident of importance close to the heart of every ship, in those halcyon days - was the killing of a Pig, off the Cape of Good Hope; because it meant something for them as after a few weeks of salt-mess it seemed like an oasis, in the Sahara, & if it meant a nice fresh mess for them, they always look forward to this event with pleasure; as the fresh mess generally, materially so - There are many very pleasant scenes in life which one will recall with pleasure; - The many hours we have sat on deck together talking over past events and future prospects - of different ships and different crewmates - different countries we had visited - Yet dearest of all "Home sweet Home" was all most - while at night the stars were shining so bright - how grand the sight that glorious constellation "the Southern Cross" - to watch its sinking, below the Southern horizon or the movements of Heides & Pleiades (big and little dipper) or Castor and Pollux - and the Belt of Venus in their passage across the western sky.

while we all stood silent as watchfully
gazing their movements the voices from
the west of many a wild heart, how few
dawn the morning with - to see the moon
gradually sinking to rest like a tired child
after a night of play, while on the Eastern
horizon the sun appears at the same moment
(his sight is only seen at sea) to say "good
morning to morrow I am here to guard the
Earth while you are resting - a mayhap
me to visit other worlds - Glorious reality!"

There are many incidents connected with
a voyage to the colonies or India which
would be very interesting reading - but I will
just give an outline of this one voyage
as my story commences it was an "eventful
voyage - crowded in with scenes strange
weird - Romantic - tragic and dramatic
as the train of events will ~~ever~~ prove



14 We had a very pleasant passage until we
reached St. Philip Heads - a light which is
near to the heart of the outward ^{bound} ~~through~~ route
at this point were in strange succession,
at the mouth of the Harbor was a ship
call'd the "Formosa" being tossed to and fro
on the rocks - a complete wreck - while
inside the Harbor or heads - was another
fine ship the "Hurricane" - batter'd with
the ^{wave &} rocks - I believe she became a total loss
while down at Geelong a few miles away.
The dear old Clipper ship Lightning was
bound to the water's edge - and at the
Pier at Williamstown by the Black Star -
in flames - she was badly saved I think
all these I saw for I went to Geelong ^{and} saw
the Lightning (a sister ship to ours) the
previous voyage she made from Australia
with a piece of rock imbedded in the bottom
she having scraped the rocks - they sounded
found no water - proceeded all right and
never knew till they got to England the danger



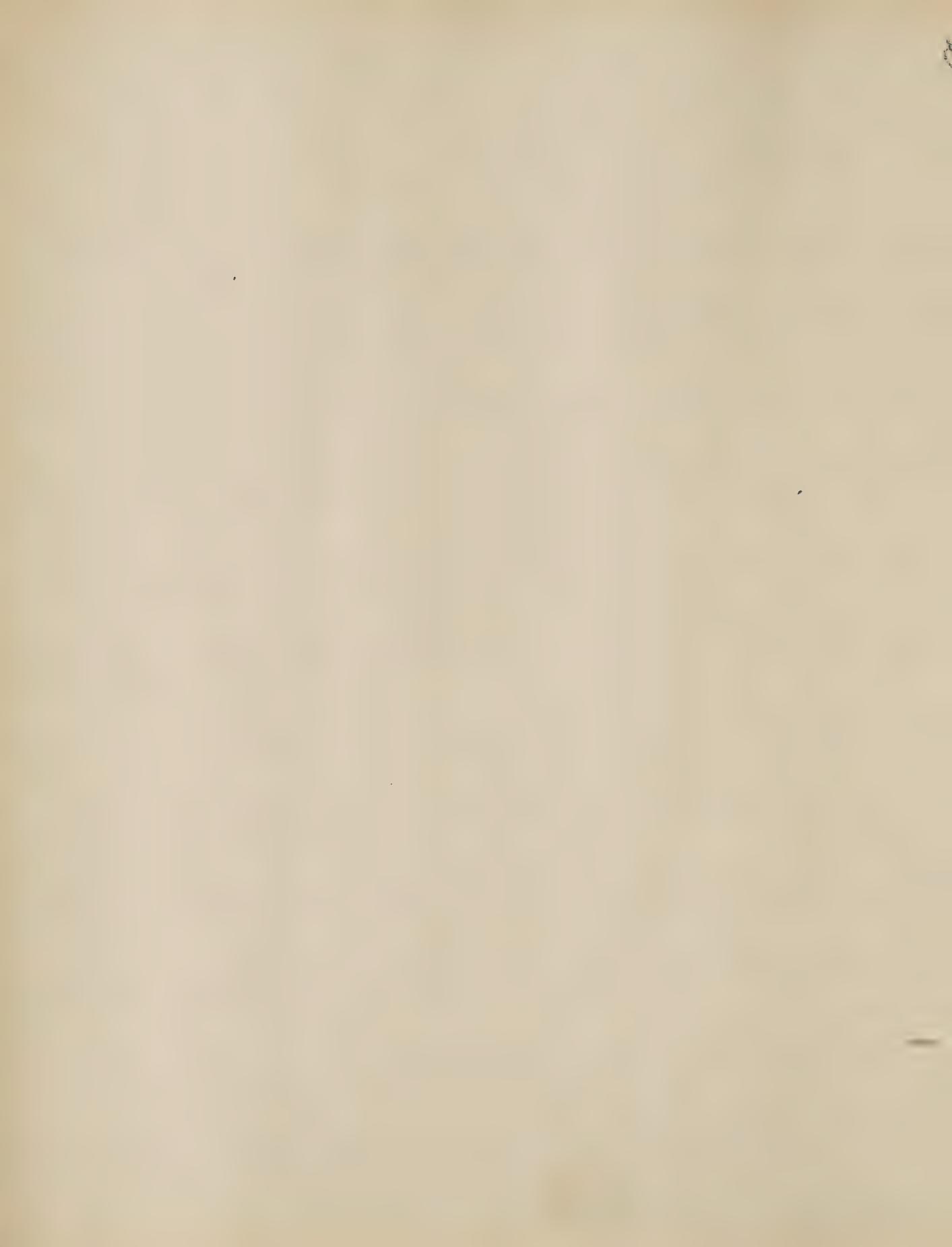
All hands were in - if that rock slipped not
 they would have all gone to the bottom - these
 items I mention are facts - how to the ~~big~~
 the Pilot came aboard brought us in safely
 and we were tied up at North Williamstown pier
 nine miles from Melbourne - the passengers all
 went ashore to their several destinations
 where the families of some see to day
 probably, within the Municipal boundaries
 of many a town or city - such is life
 The ship being nearly deserted by the absence
 of so many people - we are now very quiet
 all unloaded - waiting for further orders
 and perhaps sharper scenes

Christmas day being close at we were now
 to prepare for a grand ^{revel} -

The Duke of Edinburgh had returned to
 Australia in the ^{HMS} Galatea - after his terrible
 experience in that country one year previous
 having been shot in the back by an indiscreet
 young man ^{hanged by me} a Fenian who suffered the death
 penalty - although the Queen had sent a reprieve
 which arrived too late

16th City

The ~~people~~^{Shy Busters} of Melbourne gave a grand banquet
~~in the~~ in the open air - at a place
call'd Richmond, about three miles from Melbourne
in a very large level field. Everything was
laid on tables in the form of a square - ~~the~~
~~the~~ the tables were formed in square - and
every body got a square meal - a careful
estimate put the number down at Twenty to
Twenty five thousand who eat and drank to
their hearts and bodies content - the Liquids
consisted of Cider and Milk only - but an
abundant supply - the Rich the poor the main
the lame the halt and the blind were welcome
all free - was a grand a glorious sight and
made the young Prince (whom I saw) dearer to
the Australian heart - this was a few days
before Christmas (Temperature about 80°) - On
Christmas day a Free Banquet was given on
board on Ships - she being a genuine favorite
in Australian waters - we were all aglow
with bunting the officers donned their brass
bound suits - the Sailors put on their white naval
uniform which they wore on Sundays

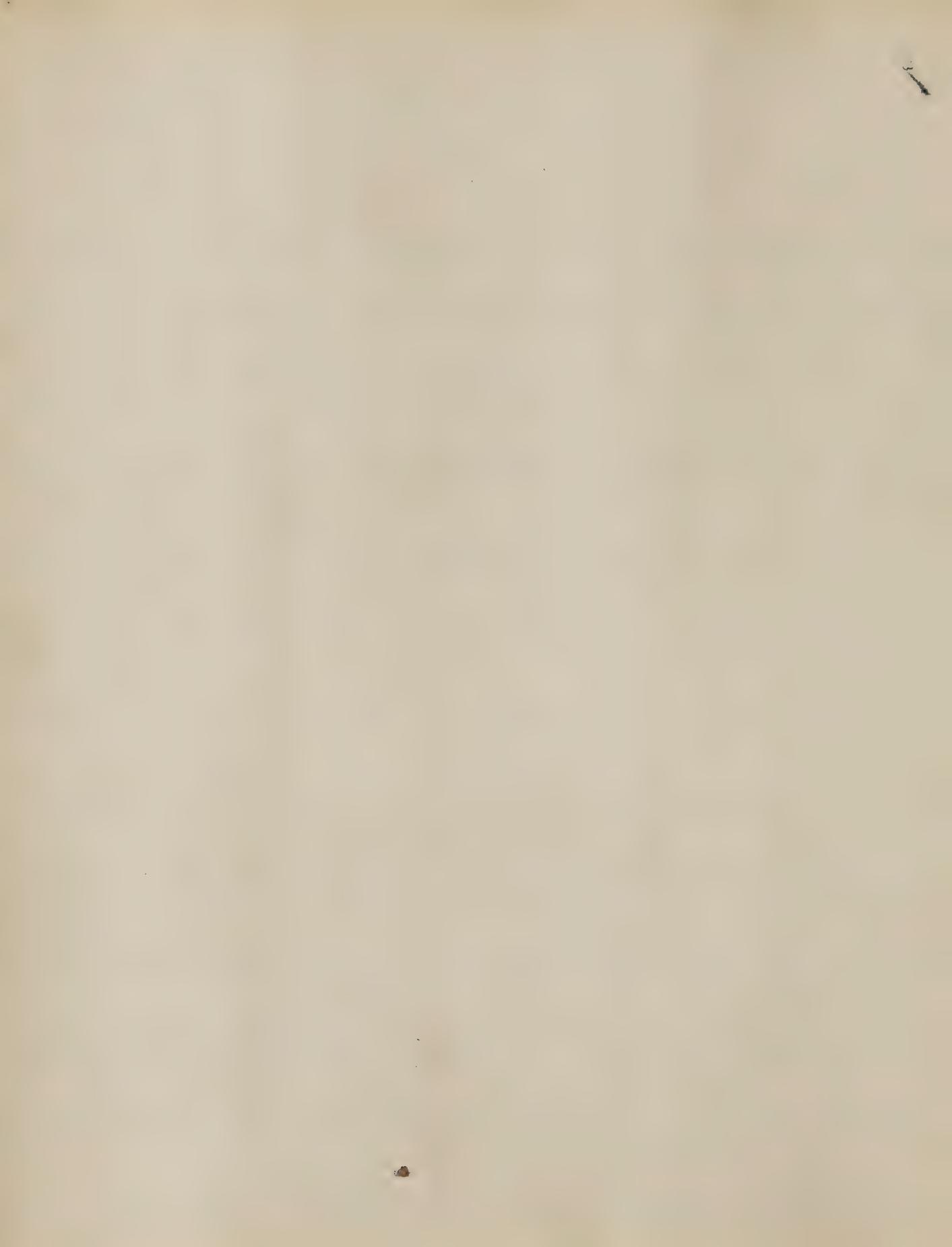


The washmashers put ~~the~~^{an} extra touch on the
apes - furnish coils on clewline, and buntline,
in fact the poop, look'd too nice to walk on,
the brass work shone like the dome of
Asia Sophia, - under a mid day sun; - all the
ships in port bore a holiday appearance,
not so much because Royalty was in the
Harbor, as it was to honor the One for whom
the day is called; - The Captain took advantage
of the holiday season and before himself
to Ballarat to indulge in a famous Australian
sport a Kangaroo hunt; - at the Theatre at
this time were indubitable in the "Green Bushes"
in another Theatre was "Makah na Pogue" and
I think Daniel Bandman held the boards
at the other; - I spoke of a free banquet
on board our ship - every one who came on board
was given a free dinner and some of McBracken's
famous Casmelaine Ale, - he had a special
brew for the occasion; - a more satisfied lot
of people I never saw - everybody seemed to think
their own presence, was indispensable; - to make
the occasion a grand success,

on

the evening following Christmas, there
was a grand ball, at the Assembly rooms,
at which the young Prince, dandied in nearly
every set, paying no attention to Station
in life - he was there as a Sailor for a good
time, and he had it; - the City was done
up in ^{the} Bunting; Fireworks at night, was a
superb sight; when morning came - the world
moved on as though nothing of moment occurred.
But feasting and pleasure must have an end,
- for a short time after, the Events narrated,
we were told that an Expedition to Algiers,
had been talked of in England, to release some
missionaries, held as ransom, by King Theodore,
we were ordered out into the stream, and
took on board, one hundred and fifty horses,
for use among English Officers, in the Expedition.
We loaded our Dlop, or lower deck with Hay, and
grain, - got our provisions on, for man, and
beast, and set sail, one beautiful morning in
January ⁶⁷ for Bombay, India. - where we arrived
after a splendid passage of forty five days,
nothing of moment occurring, with one exception,

We had one hundred fifty horses when we started, we had one hundred fifty one when we arrived, one mare having foaled, on the passage, we arrived in the harbor of Bombay, one morning in March, unloaded horses, and hay, and stood by for orders, I don't believe in the world's history, so many ships were gathered together as were gathered in that beautiful harbor of Bombay, they were taking on board stores, and stores, and fitting out of the harbor daily; with flags flying, guns firing; - a glorious Pageant, for a glorious purpose, - the release of a few faithful people, who dared to preach Christ, to the savage tribes of Abyssinia; what story in history so grand, - so noble; and yet this was all accomplished, without loss of life, (so I am informed) - under the leadership of that brave man, Sir Robert Vyner, - who afterward received the title "Baron Robert Vyner of Maydalen"



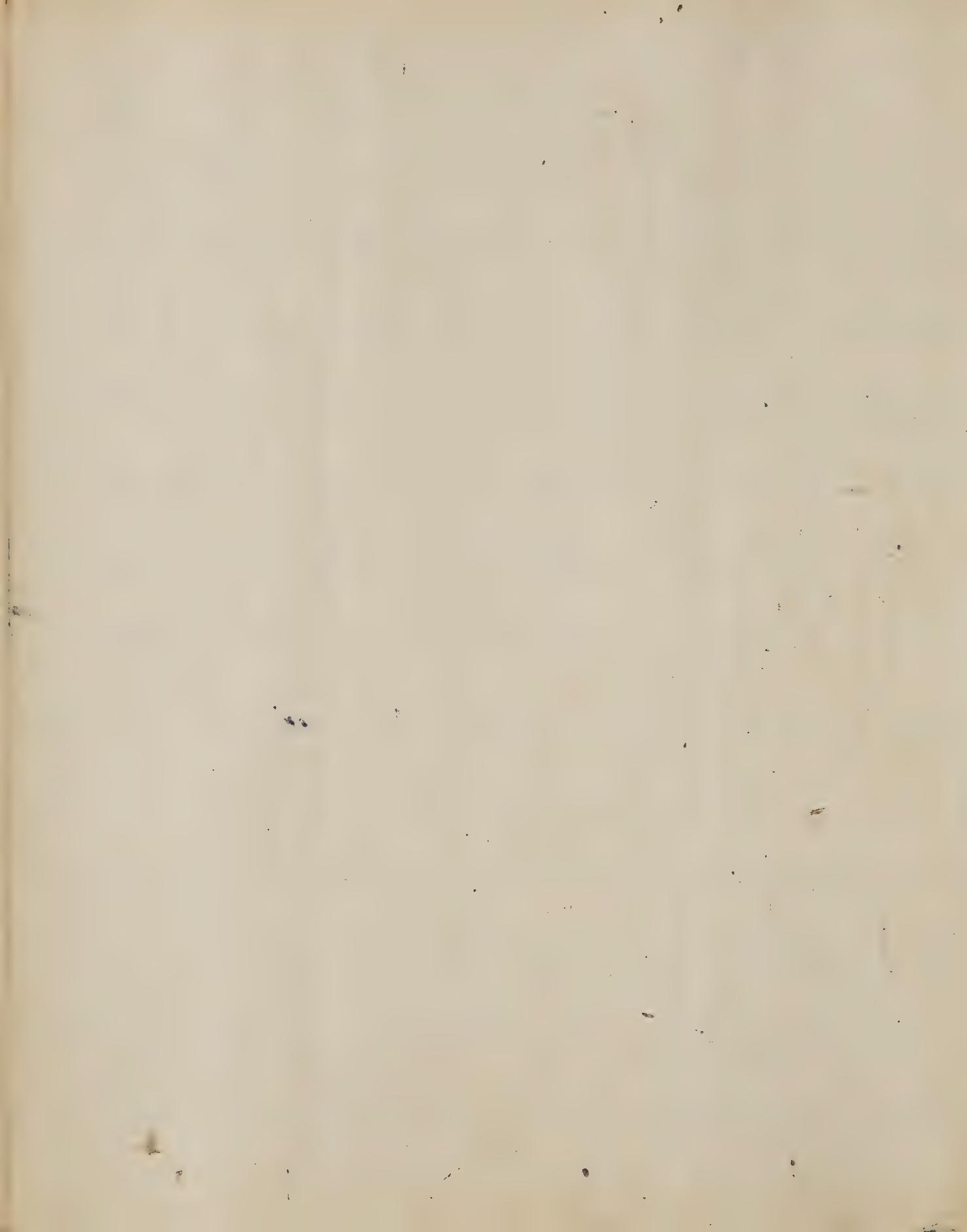
Before I leave Bombay, I will tell you a little of the ~~place~~^{city}, - being situated on shore; there is a beautiful garden owned by Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy about six miles from Bombay; the place is called Malabar Hill, this pious philanthropist, built a tower, for the burial of dead Hindus; - the mode of ceremony is about as follows - the dead are carried by bearers, set forth for that place, they must not touch the body of the dead, as they have a belief, the body is unclean after death; - The tower is literally covered, with vultures, - cawing, and waiting for the ceremony to be over; when the bearers leave, they pounce down on the body, which is naked, from the waist up, - and tear the flesh asunder, and send the air, with their cries for the mastery; when the flesh is consumed the bones fall into a link or lattice, and are carried off into the sea - thus you see the disciples of Zoroaster follow faithfully in the teachings of their ancestor



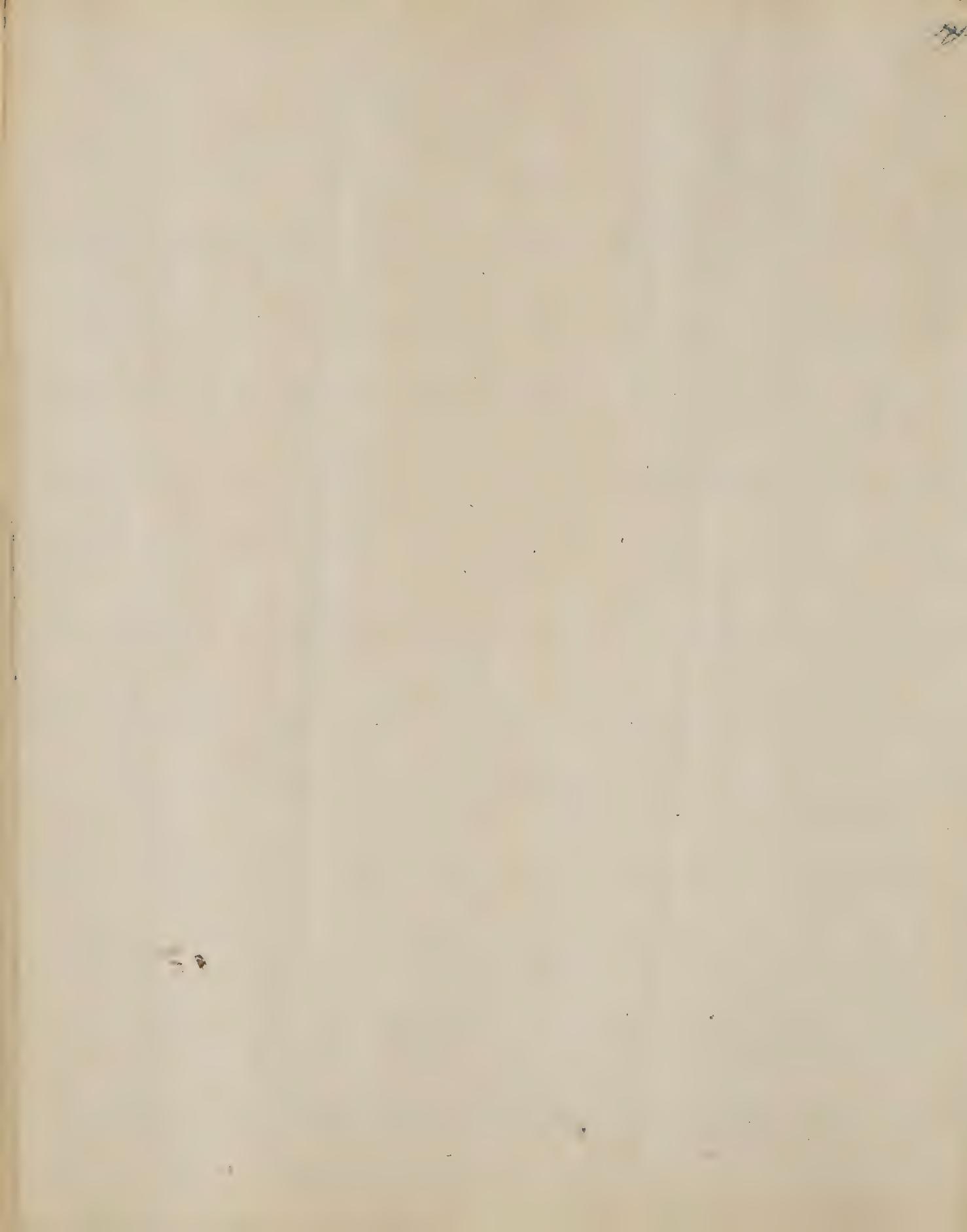
22 It would fill a large volume to dwell
on the picturesque beauty of Bombay, as
seen from ~~the ship~~ in the harbour, with
its Bundas or wharves; Fort Dungaree,
and many other places of note. - Bombay
was settled about 1200 ~~BC~~ by an army
from Persia who invaded it about that
time. - If I am not correct, you must
blame a Parsee, who told me the above
while I was ashore for a couple of days;
I never saw a wedding in Bombay, but
had that pleasure in Calcutta, in 1861 a
few years after the terrible mutiny, - but as
one ceremony ~~was~~ Parsee - and the other
Hindoo - they are - widely different I am
told. in all their ceremonials.

After all our cargo was out, we loaded
up our ship with Government Stores, in
Amesley Bay, - our objective point being
Aden - for orders, where we arrived after
a full passage, of seventeen days; the
sea during our trip was - being literally
threwed with whales, who no doubt

had been awakened from their lethargy
by the presence of so many ships. I suppose
the oldest inhabitant in whaledom - had
recalled nothing like it since the days
of Cyrus and Darius - or probably the
Persian flotilla that crossed over to
capture Bombay some six centuries previous,
anyhow they showed their appreciation of
our presence by coming to the surface
and bidding us (Nipper-like) welcome -
the R. and O. steamers, for some time previous
being their only disturber - but what did
all this mean - why all this music, surely
the sea, and land, are in commotion; some
great event is taking place, - as there
surely was - the release of faithful people.
as I said before; - and the day cannot not
being spent for three years after this event
all shipping had to go by the Cape ^{of good} Cape;
when we arrived at Aden; we were allowed
to go ashore in watches, to bathe - as the
ship had to lay to in the offing; and some

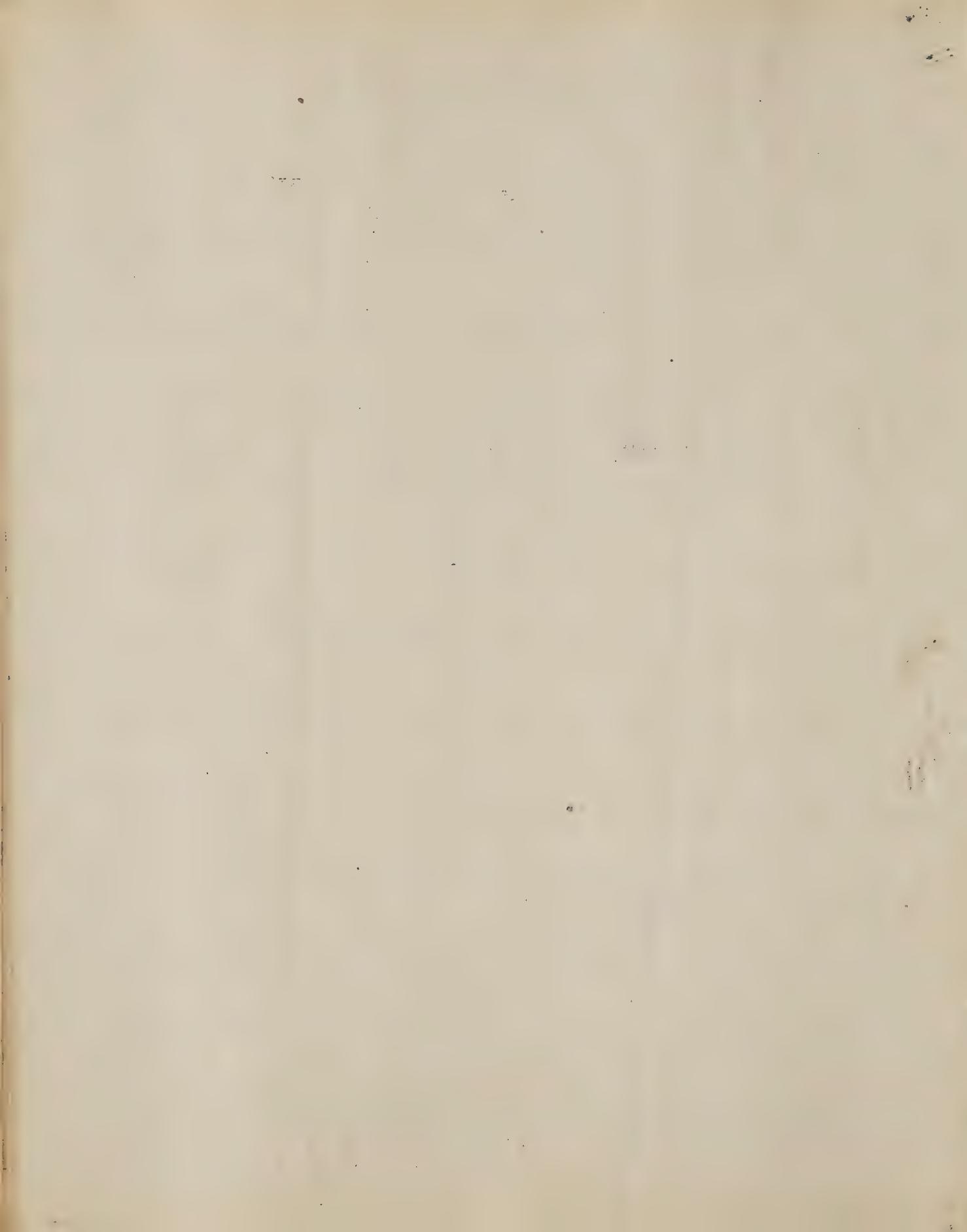


had to stay on board, to man her, while
 lacking about; I shall never forget the
 feeling that came over the crew our first
 night at Aden: as we looked off in the
 direction where we had been bathing
 and saw the water apparently alive with
 sharks - as the phosphorescent
 bodies disclosed their shape and every
 old sailor knows a shark at night, as
 well as by day, & all had got gone ashore
 to bathe - those who had were thankful
 the shark had been out of town as it
 were - I presumed they smelt something or
 other about the water that attracted
 so many - but they were there at night
 where they were during the day. I shall
 have to leave to the "Science of Arabia", the
 lore of the Chaldean Sages, or the occult
 mysteries of the Persian Magi to explore
 but it's out of my province - Although I
 love the sea; the remembrance of that night
 has kept my feet dry; as far as salt sea
 bathing, is concerned, unless close to the edge



After a few days ^{they} at Aden
 He received orders, to return to Bombay, immediately; - As we had been told, that King Shere, of Abyssinia, shot himself, as seeing his capture was inevitable; as his identity was discovered by the British soldiers, he being dressed, like his countrymen, in order that he would not be known; his sons were taken to England, and educated, at the Government's expense.

The passage back to Bombay was very monotonous, as the steamers from the other Bay, caught up with the sailing craft; Bands playing, interchange of salutations, and many other incidents made the time back not so monotonous, those vessels loaded with hay, threw most ^{of it} overboard on the passage, (per orders) - how pleasant in some cases, to live over the past; as the writer is while narrating these episodes; those things seemed commonplace at the time but the memory of them, like our late civil war, is thrilling to those ^{who} were the participants, in those terrible scenes;



Then we arrived in the Harbor of Bombay, our Captain, went on shore, to meet some of his old friends, and shipmates, of former years, which this event had brought together by accident, as it were; - he contracted a fever, - and after a few days, had to be taken, ~~on shore~~ - to the Byculla hotel about five miles out from Bombay, in the opposite direction, from Malabar Hill I stood by his side till a couple of hours before he died - he was a good man a Gentleman - without any bad habits - and a Christian too - he lays alone for funerl interred in Colaba Cemetery - there to await the trumpet, that calls together, from East, to West, from North, to South, and over all Oceans, and seas, - to one final gathering, or absolute creation "their reward is with him"

Our Chief Officer now having taken full command by authority from the owners we took in ballast, and sailed back to Melbourne, Australia; - our owners having I suppose been well paid for our wait in



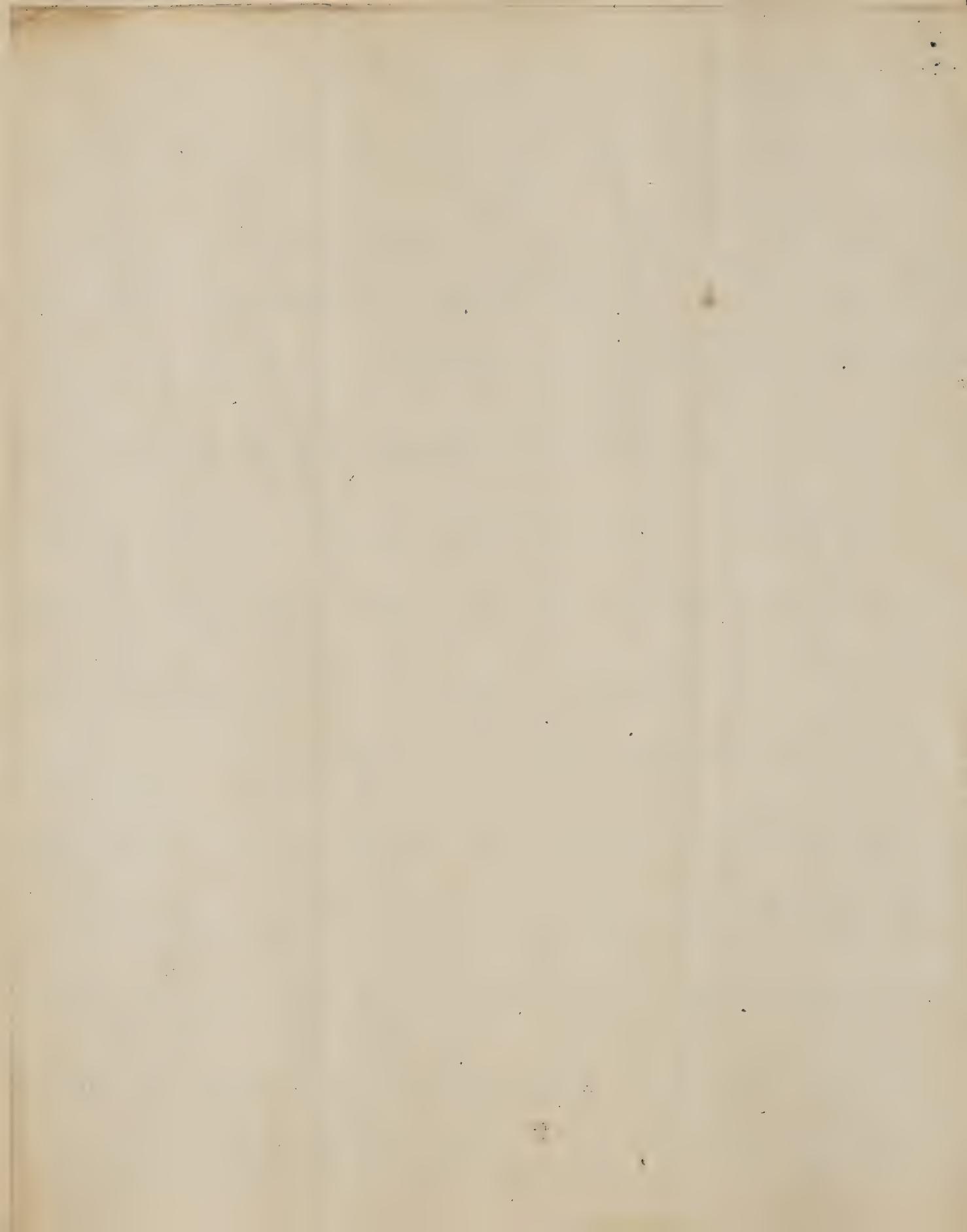
the expedition, - our passage to Australia, was a very pleasant one indeed; so far as weather, was concerned; but we missed our Old Skipper, from his favorite walk on the weather quarter deck; in other ways we were disappointed - because our hero Skipper who was a very fine fellow as Chief Officer - became a veritable Autocrat. The promotion was sudden, - & the change of disposition was just as sudden - his best friends were his first, and chief points, of attack - he was naturally a lover of the Cup - and was left under in that line for the late Captain was ~~temperate~~ - how he stood like Robinson Crusoe - ^{alone} all these are true; no one dare dispute - Well may he rest in peace - if he has departed this life;

We arrived in Australia, sometime about the middle of Nov, our passage being about the same time from Bombay; we received orders immediately, to load wool for England, London being our point, of destination.

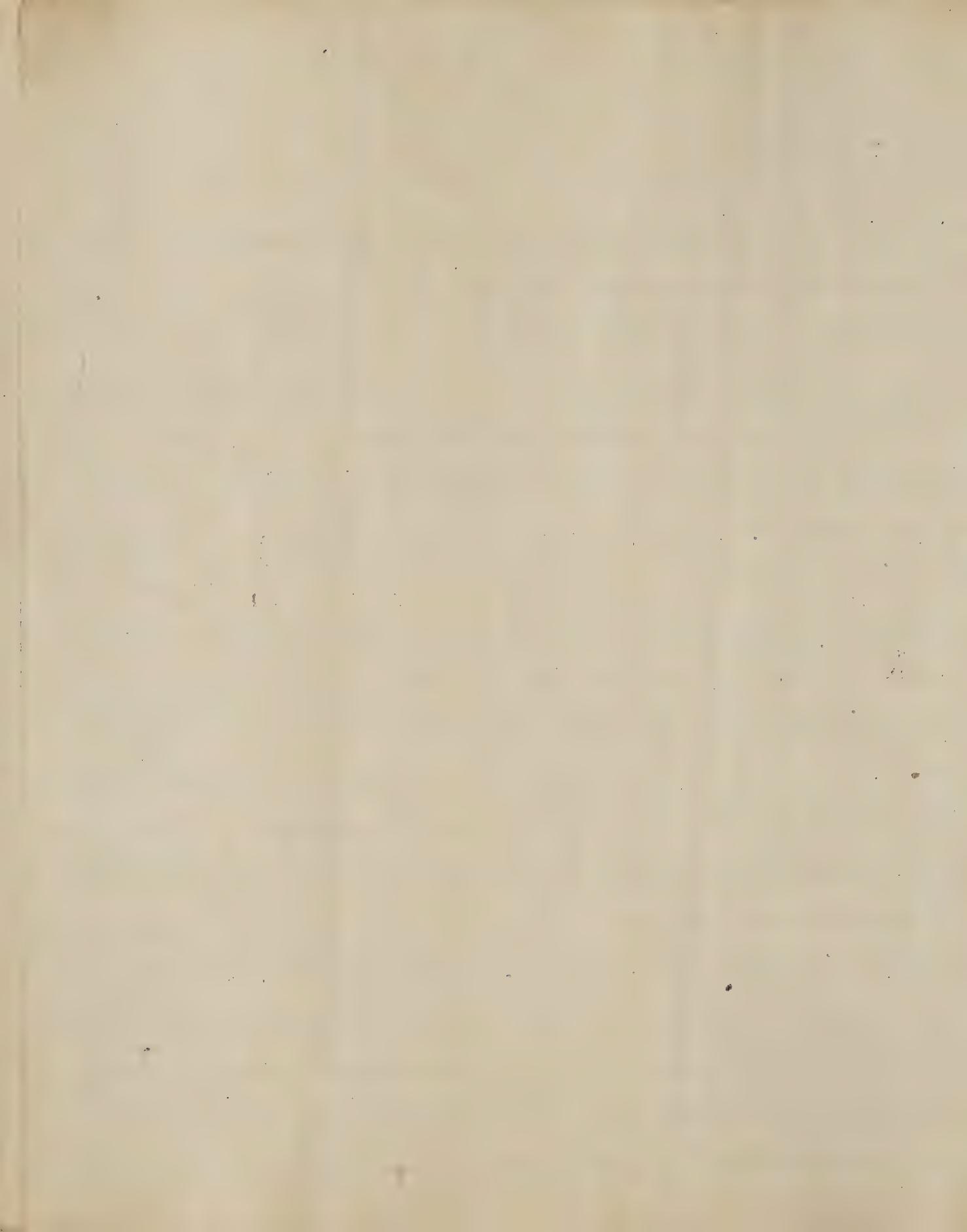


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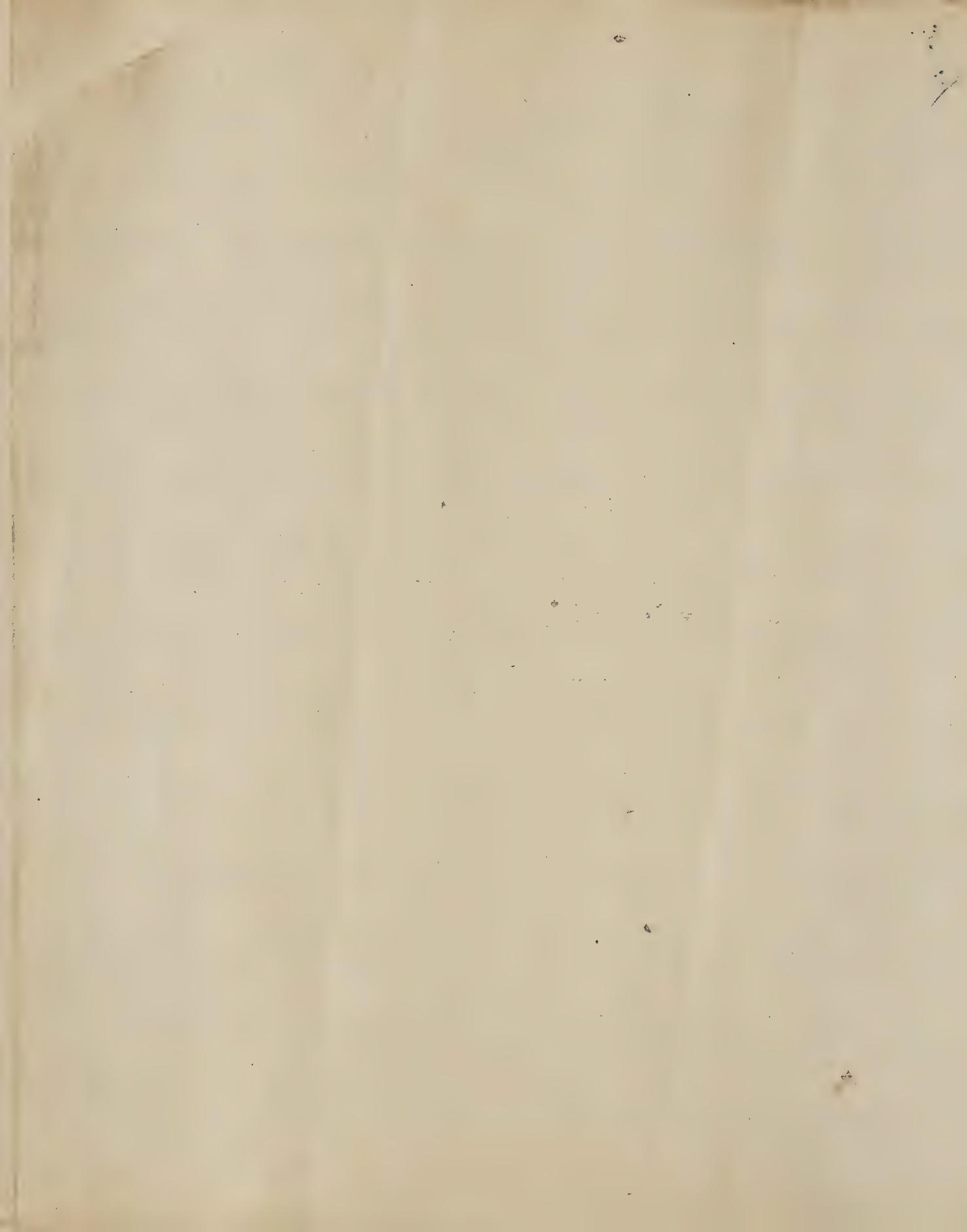
We sailed early in January; and ^{was} very fortunate, as the icebergs in the Southern Seas were very plentiful, about this time of the year; on the way towards Cape Horn, some of those gigantic Monks, are very tall, and bore towards us very swift; as they go head to wind, and we have ^{as} a fair wind, the danger of collision, is imminent; unless by careful, and of course skillful navigation; we had tremendous gales, and mountainous seas, to encounter off Cape Horn; our ship, a regular Clipper, rode the waves like a thing of life; after we had weathered the Cape, and got into fine weather; then came our usual sport of Albatrosses catching, among the passengers as sailors have no time, for the sport, the passengers (we had several) had nothing else to occupy their mind - unless to eat, drink, and find out what's for the next meal; and watch Mother Carey's chickens, as they fly around under our taffrail; waiting for crumbs of food -



I will not attempt to give you a
weird description of a storm at sea
from the moment of the gathering of the
clouds to the height of their fury, down
to their gradual lessening - till all seems like
peace - after a great battle - As there is
no modern sea writer who is an adept
in that line - any verbose - redundant -
or Metaphorical expressions on my part
might read like plagiarists ~~and~~ ^{and} as we
both are, or have been sailors, I will
extend the brotherly hand of a shipmate
and let him splice all the fancy knots -
while I will content myself with plain
living - I have endeavored to give you
forecastle grub; which is rather plain,
at best; I love to read his stories,
for one need reason; they are sea
tales - written by one who has been
there; when she other reads who has
been there too - there is a most
tremendous amount of sympathy,
and reciprocation,



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There were quite a number of first class passengers on board, and when the fine weather came, there was lots of fun, our decks were flush, so were the passengers (with money) we had wheelbarrow races for prizes - climbing greasy soles and other diversions, the piece of fun caused the most merriment on the passage, i.e. a pig was covered over with lush and let loose, and there was a nice sum of money for the one that caught her or him I don't know which - after a great deal of excitement. An ordinary leamor. A young Irishmen caught the pig, by the hind feet and threw her (or him) over, and they both rolled over, and over, - but the young man held on and got his money, and he earned it well; To enumerate all that happened would make a story in itself, one Gentleman - created a Newsoffice - made himself Editor - published a book, under the title - "Licklick Times" which many have a copy of to this day - mine ^{was} lost or stolen



And I only saw one copy since, - and
money could not buy it; at least
what I could raise, - had no effect;

The next important event, was to
find ourselves very suddenly in the wake
of a ~~water~~ ^{water} spout, which ~~was~~
like one massive black ~~fat~~ pillar which
reached from sky to ocean and seemed
to stand forth alone, - and yet moving
towards us with tremendous velocity;
we had scarcely time to go about, but
under the guidance of God, and good
seamanship combined (Faith without works
is dead) - we had the pleasure of seeing
it move away from us, although ^a very
close, ^{share} we saw several - but none so
near - they are dangerous companions.
The numerous incidents which used to
take place on those old time Australian
liners, would be very pleasant reading
although there have been many very
sad and very wicked scenes enacted,
as well

The cool morning in ^{February} ~~Feby~~ 1868. we sighted
 the Cliffs of Dover - and shortly after ^{channel} a Pilot
 came on board - who remained till we reached
 the Quarantine ground off Gravesend - where
 he left us and a Thames River Pilot came
 on board and as there was a fair wind
 blowing a nice light frost breeze. we came
 up the river Smiling - on past Greenwich Hospital
 where many an old sailor can tell weird tales
~~of~~ of the sea - on past the "Victory" on whose
 decks brave ~~dead~~ Nelson fell - on to ~~the~~ the Victoria Docks - where our ship unloaded
 one of the largest cargoes of Wool ever brought from
 the colonies - after a nice passage of ^{Eighty} ~~Eighty~~ days,
 the usual time of sailing ships - being ^{seventeen} about a hundred
 We had taking all events of about ~~one~~ months
 into consideration a very eventful voyage,
 long to be remembered by the wife and all
 the participants

Joseph A Connolly

~~Handwritten~~

New London

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